

Barth Smelting – Chronology of EPA Sampling and Follow-up:

October 3, 2012- EPA and its contractor do a walk-through of the Terrell Homes with the assistance of Newark Housing Authority (NHA) personnel. Also walked along Chapel Street to look at private residences to see if they had exposed soils.

October 29-30: Original schedule for soil sampling at Terrell Homes playground. Sampling postponed due to Hurricane Sandy.

November 2 - EPA is informed by NHA outside counsel Eric Pennington that Terrell Homes is flooded and has lost power due to Hurricane Sandy.

December 3-6: Soil sampling conducted at Terrell Homes playground, the backyards of two nearby residences, and a "background" location. [Note: XRF survey of paint on playground equipment and on retaining wall was also conducted on Dec. 3 to help determine if that paint could be a source of lead; tests were negative.)

Thursday, January 10 - ERRD receives early, non-QA/QC'd results of soil sample analyses. Preliminary results were received in groups of samples.

January 11 - February 5 – DESA and ERRD develop graphic representation of data to facilitate interpretation and communication. DESA and ERRD staff meet Jan 23 and Jan 31 to discuss incorporation of additional data and information received from 99 Chapel Street LLC PRP (Jan 23 meeting) and its interpretation (Jan 31 meeting).

Wednesday, February 6: ERRD and DESA managers and staff meet to review site information including soil lead levels reported in non-QA/QC'd data, information about site history, and preliminary interpretation of soil contamination data and past industrial activities. Participants agree that access to the playground should be restricted and a removal action will be necessary (assuming QA/QC'd data results are consistent with preliminary data).

Thursday, February 14: ERRD receives all QA-QC'd data. Notifications to City of Newark NHA. Notifications to owners and residents of two nearby private residences were also initiated and continued on subsequent days. EPA advises NHA to restrict access to the playground and asks NHA to install a temporary fence (e.g., snow fence); NHA agrees to install the fence.

Friday, February 15: EPA provides to NHA the soil data for the playground. EPA also provides NHA with informational flyers for distribution to Terrell Homes residents. NHA advises EPA it will restrict access to playground through signage and fencing. EPA provides the soil data for the backyards and distributes flyers to two nearby private residences.

Saturday, February 16: EPA conducts site visit, and calls the NHA representatives to determine whether fencing is being installed; we are unable to reach NHA representatives. [Feb. 16-18 is President's Day Holiday weekend.]

Tuesday, February 19: NHA advises EPA it does not have funding to install the fence. EPA advises NHA we will install the fence. NHA advises that it will remove the playground equipment on 2/20.

Wednesday, February 20: NHA removes the playground equipment.

Thursday, February 21: EPA installs temporary chain-link fencing to restrict access to playground (RV1). EPA also meets with NHA to discuss the data, plan additional sampling, and arrange for a public meeting with the Terrell Homes residents. EPA also meets with Ana Baptista of the Ironbound Community

Corporation (ICC). EPA provides ICC with update on fence work and future sampling plans; and consults on outreach & notification efforts. ICC agrees to assist EPA with public meeting in early March at or near Terrell Homes, and assist in door-to-door outreach at Terrell Homes to advertise the meeting.

February 27, 2013: EPA begins sampling event at 99 Chapel Street property. Property is completely flooded due to a high water table and rain, sampling is not completed. Rescheduled for a later date.

March 6, 2013: EPA holds public meeting in the Community Room at Terrell Homes.

March 26, 2013: EPA collects soil samples from 13 soil borings installed throughout the 99 Chapel Street property.

March 29 – April 1, 2013: EPA conducts soil sampling at the Terrell Homes property. 30 soil borings were installed to a depth of 2' throughout the property. An additional 6 soil borings were installed to a depth of 6" in areas on the property located near entrances with bare soil.

May 8, 2013 – EPA receives validated data from March/April sampling event.

May 10, 2013 – Met NHA representatives on site at the Terrell Homes to discuss the areas that need to be addressed with a temporary removal action. NHA agreed to install temporary construction fencing around the unpaved area until EPA could put in a more permanent temporary fence.

May 13, 2013 – EPA returned to Terrell Homes to install the temporary chain-link fence. (RV2)

May 15-16, 2013 – Based upon elevated levels of lead found within an unpaved area adjacent a children's sprinkler park, additional soil sampling was performed in this area to determine the extent of contamination to make removal decisions.

August 9, 2013 – Removal Site Evaluation finalized.

August 14, 2013 – Return to Terrell Homes to collect soil samples from along the property line between 99 Chapel and Terrell. Soil samples collected beneath asphalt paving along property line.

September 10, 2013 – Receive validated results for August soil sampling event. Results of sampling shared with property owner of 99 Chapel Street and NHA representative.

September 26, 2013 – Action Memorandum to conduct RV3 (removal action) signed by Division Director.

October 1 – October 17, 2013 – Government shutdown

October 24, 2013 – Met with attorney and consultant for 99 Chapel Street property owner. Invited 99 Chapel Street to participate in response actions to be conducted on Terrell Homes property by installing curbing/retaining wall along property line to prevent soils from migrating onto the Terrell homes property.

October 28, 2013 – Met with Response Manager from ERRS to go over scope of work for the site.

November 1, 2013 – Received letter from 99 Chapel Street indicating willingness to complete removal activities at the Barth Smelting site by installing curbing/retaining wall.

November 7, 2013 – Collected soil samples from Terrell Homes for pre-classification for waste disposal.

November 20, 2013 – Public meeting held at Terrell Homes to inform residents of response activities.

December 3 – 20, 2013 – Removal action conducted at Terrell Homes, included: Excavation, T&D, and Backfilling activities

January 7, 2014 – Received diagrams for engineered curbing from 99 Chapel Street.

January 8, 2014 – Completed installing silt fencing and placing erosion matting to prep site for winter. Will return in the Spring to complete restoration of property.